The LEGO® Builders Club

Bricks 'n Pieces

A newsletter for LEGO® Club members No. 2. Summer '79

COME TO THE GREAT CLUB RALLY AUG 25th

Wouldn't it be great if LEGO Club members could meet together to swap ideas and share their interests?

Well, that's exactly what we are going to try and do!

The day is Saturday, August 25th. The place is the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery.

Birmingham is a long way away for a lot of you but we hope that many will be able to come for what should be the world's biggest gathering of LEGO fans ever!

Why Birmingham?

There are 2 reasons why Birmingham is a good place to hold our Rally. It is fairly easily reached from London, Leeds, Cardiff and Manchester, and we will be holding a big LEGO "build-in" at the Museum all through the Summer (see "Children Build in Birmingham").

What will happen?

It will be a great day, with huge piles of LEGO bricks to build with and films to see. Your Club President, Clive Nicholls, will be there to greet you and so will LEGO's chief model designer David Lyall. Just think of being able to meet the man who designs all those fantastic display models. You will be able to talk to him, show him your ideas, ask his advice and see how he goes about planning his huge models.

The Rally opens at 11.00 in the morning and continues until 4.00 in the afternoon, free refreshments will be provided so you could spend the whole 5 hours there if you wished or just come along for any hour or two, as you like.

What you do

Admission will be by special invitation only because we don't want other children there who are not Club Members do we? So if you expect to come, just send in the slip provided with this Newsletter and we'll send you your free invitation.

This will admit a Club Member plus 1 adult so be sure to bring it with you and don't forget to wear your Club badge!

It promises to be a very exciting day. We do hope you will be able to come.

Model designer David Lyall at work on one of the giant LEGO mosaics which will be used to decorate the "Children Build" exhibition in Birmingham Museum which opens on 23rd July.

Dear Members,

I am very excited about the idea of a Club Rally on August 25th and I look forward to meeting many of you there. Perhaps we will be able to make this an annual event, holding it in a different town each year so that more of you will have a chance to get along. That would be great wouldn't it, as I realise that if you live in Glasgow or Plymouth for example then Birmingham is not easy to get to!

Of course this first Rally is a big gamble, for we don't know yet whether to expect 50 or 5,000 members. Fifty would be disappointing but 5,000 could be chaotic (just imagine all the sandwiches and buns we would need, wow!) Anyway, I'll tell you all about it in our next Newsletter in November, but I hope to see lots of you before then at Birmingham on 25th August.

Either way, do keep sending me pictures of your models. I love seeing the fantastic things you create and I only wish we could show more, but I think you will agree that the few we have selected well deserve their golden Master Builder Badges.

Perhaps you will get some fresh ideas for models of your own from the pictures and I wish you good building.

Yours sincerely,

CLIVE NICHOLLS
Club President

CHILDREN BUILD IN BIRMINGHAM

Under the title "Children Build. LEGO, Creativity and Play" the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery are giving over their largest hall this Summer to an event in which children can come in and play with huge piles of LEGO bricks, all entirely free.

The show opens to the public on 23rd July until 24th August, except Sundays from 10.30 to 4.30, and any Club Members who live nearby might well like to go along at any time as well as come to the very special day for Club Members only on 25th August.

Fairground Scene

Christopher Rogers of Whitstable scored a great success with his marvellous model of a traction engine and steam organ.

He was even invited to show it on T.V. on the "Nationwide" programme. Perhaps some of you saw him?

Chris is very proud of the special LEGO jumper his mum knitted him, which we also show, so there's a prize for her too!

HMS LEGO

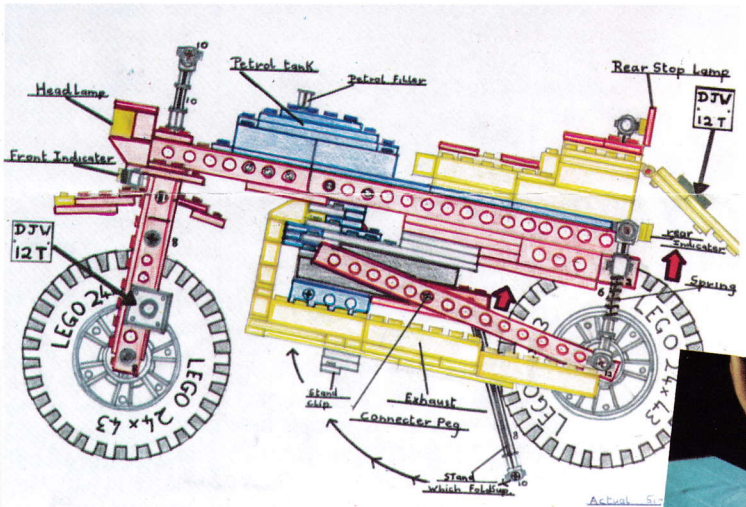
Robin Morel (8) of Milton Keynes got his dad to help him with this impressive ship. Perhaps he'll let his dad share his Master Builder's badge occasionally?

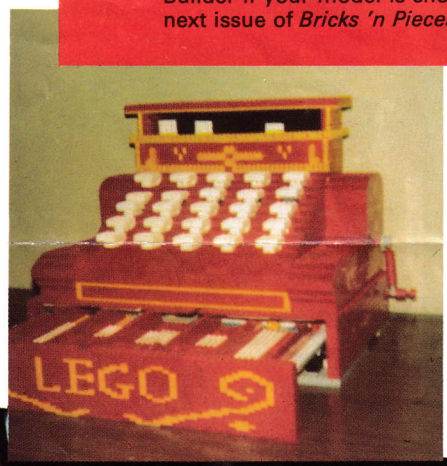
MASTER AWA

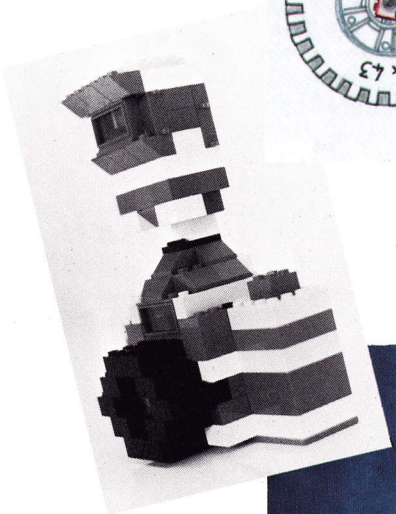
A "golden" Master Builder Bad to each of the members whose are shown here. If you h photograph of a special model, in and you too could become a Builder if your model is shown next issue of *Bricks 'n Pieces.*

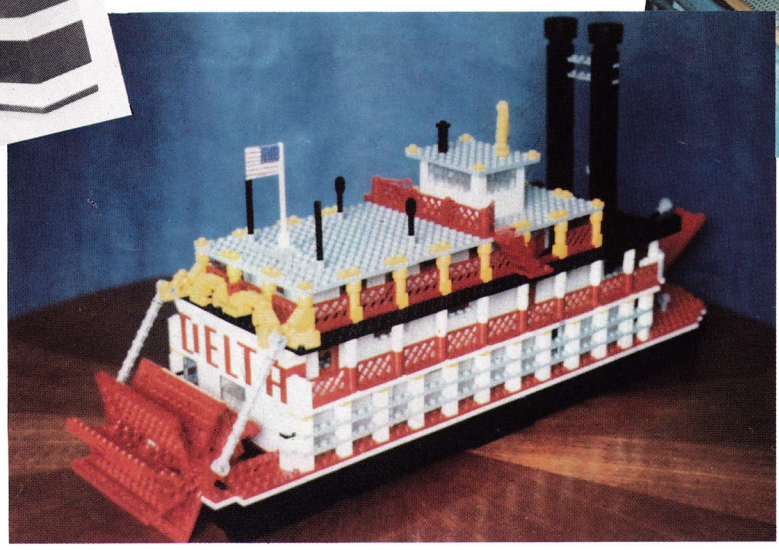
Technical set Bike

Congratulations to 13-year-old David Welham of Preston whose beautifully drawn design for a motor bike built from his 853 set we reproduce exactly as he sent it to us.









Camera

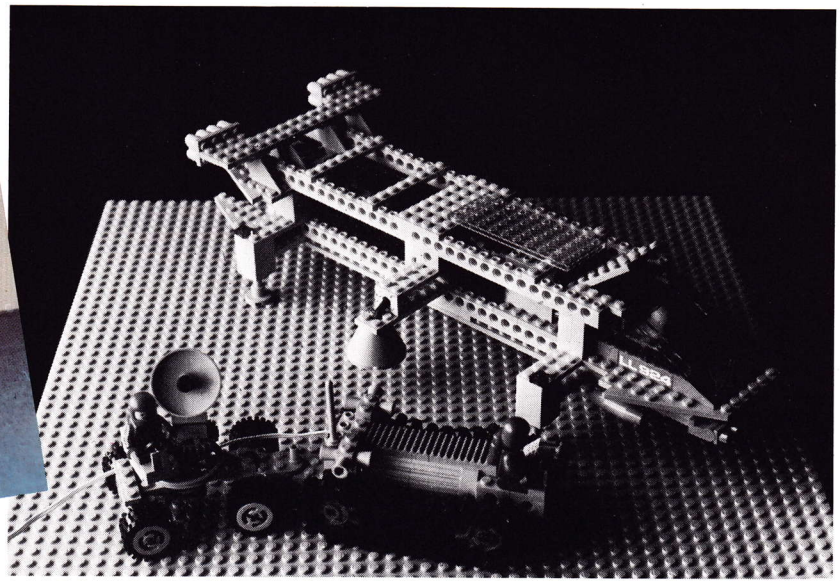
Neil James comes from Cornwall and his "LEGOmatic" camera is equipped even with a built-in flash. It was even shown in the magazine *Amateur Photographer* last year.

Fire!

The firemen of the Llandudno fire brigade ar Members but we thought you'd like to see th they made of their fire station as a mone attraction for charity.

Mississippi Steam Boat

Built by Colin Henderson (12) of Paisley th model even lights up at night!



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SPACE Interceptor

Danielle Bromwich of Twickenham is about 2 years old and complains that she can't play with her LEGO because her dad won't leave it alone.

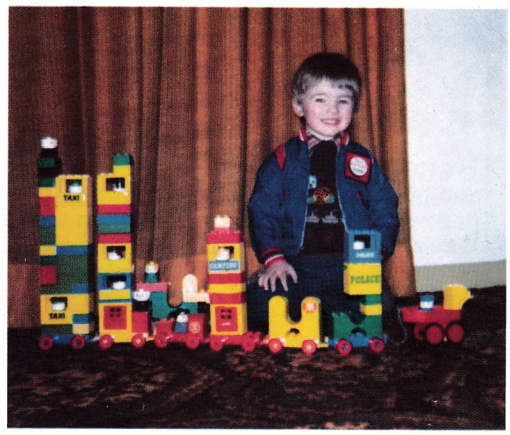
Incidentally, our apologies to all of you who want the new LEGOLAND Space Sets but can't find them in the shops. The demand was so great we simply ran out but hope to get some more in the Autumn. Sorry to disappoint so many of you.

ash Register

ichael Huckstep (15) from
xfordshire sent in this
eautiful working model of
n antique cash register
hich must surely be based
n a real one he has seen
mewhere.

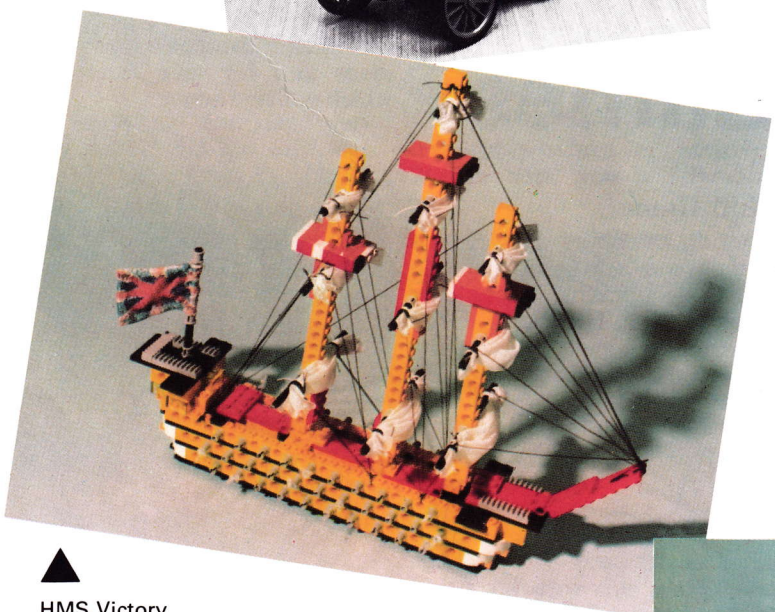
Seige Tower

Complete with battering ram and swarming with armed knights ready to storm a castle. Tommy Hughes (6) of Wotton-under-Edge built it, and very nicely too.



DUPLO Express

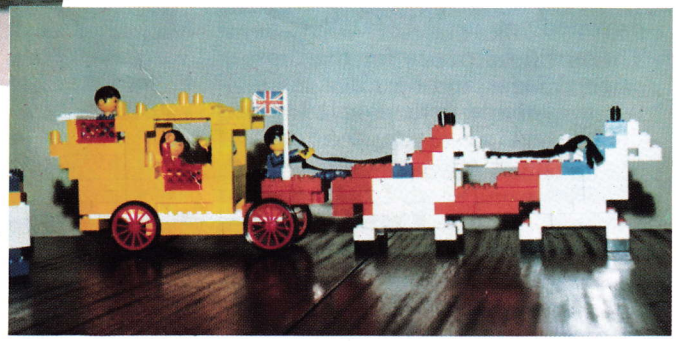
David Morland of Glasgow is only 3½ years old but his model train built from big DUPLO bricks is such fun he fully deserves a Master Builder badge.



HMS Victory

We think even Nelson would have recognised Steven Banton's model of his famous ship, the Victory.

Steven comes from Milford-on-Sea and got the idea from reading a story about Nelson.



Jubilee Coach

The Jubilee inspired Andrew Newton of Northallerton to build this super model complete with postillions and Her Majesty too.

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"15 BRICKS" COMPETITION WINNERS

In our last issue we announced a competition to see who could make the most imaginative models using 15 LEGO bricks or less. Your response was amazing!

We started off by writing to everyone thanking them for their entry but soon there were just too many. So if you didn't get a letter we thank all of you who sent in entries.

LEGO sets worth around £10 and Master Builder badges go to the 2 winners Barry Middleton (under 9 years) and Simon Bland (over 9 years) and badges to other entries shown here. It shows you don't have to have lots of LEGO to build clever models.

(a) **1st** (under 9).
Water ski-ing by Barry Middleton aged 7 of Newcastle. An original idea done with great economy.

(b) **1st** (over 9).
Rotary lawn mower by Simon Bland aged 10 of Northwood. An unusual idea beautifully realised.

(c) **Bird table** by Elspeth Robson aged 12 of Derby. Complete with building instructions.

(d) **Hang glider** by Gordon Crawford aged 7 of Rutherglen. Perhaps Dad helped a bit?

(e) **Zebra Fish** by David Lee aged 8 of Beaconsfield. Cleverly built sideways on.

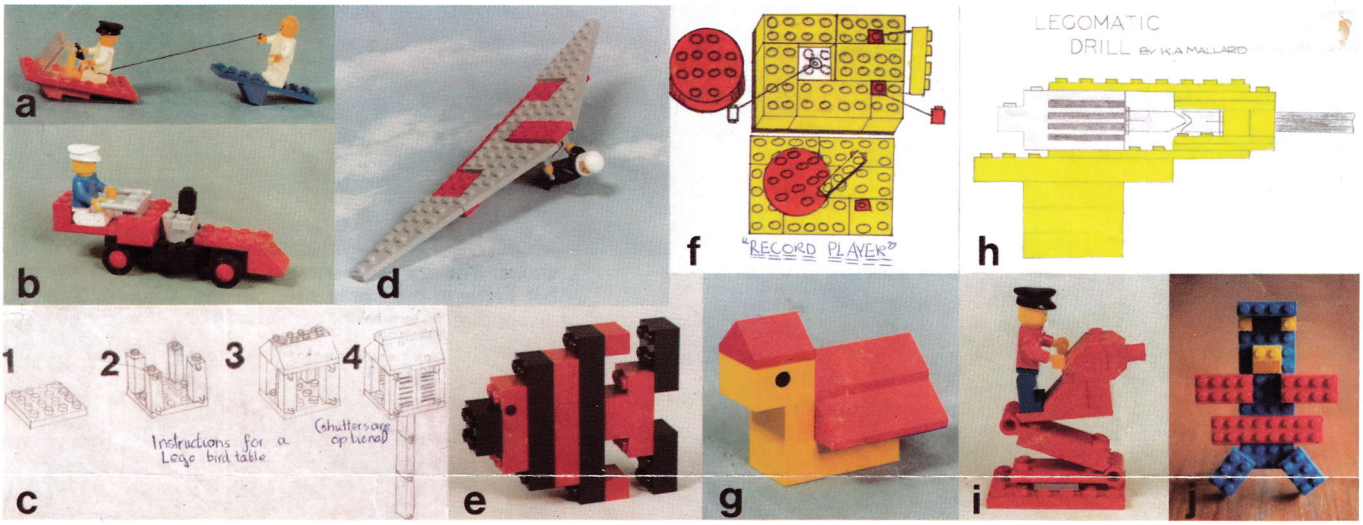
(f) **Record player** by Lindsay Wellstead aged 12 of Portslade.

(g) **Tortoise** by Tim Leunig aged 8 of Chatham. A special prize for the model with the fewest bricks. Only 7 of them!

(h) **Legomatic drill** by Karl Mallard aged 14 of Lichfield. A beautiful drawing too, Karl.

(i) **T.V. camera** by Peter Heard aged 10½ of Bath.

(j) **Lady** by Lisa Williams of Bewdley. Lisa at 4½ was our youngest entrant and so merits a special mention.



COMPETITION CORNER

Here's a different sort of competition for you. On the front page we show a picture of designer David Lyall with a giant mosaic picture built from LEGO bricks. Let's see what sort of pictures *you* can build!

They don't have to be as big as David Lyall's of course. Indeed they can be as small as you like.

They can be built on a baseplate or as a "wall" with one brick on top of another, as in our "Bricks & Pieces" title. You can send in black and white or colour photographs or even coloured drawings (squared graph paper would be good with each square representing one stud) provided you use LEGO colours.

There will be prizes for the most original ideas and best designs in two age groups, under 9 and 9+ so don't forget to give your age as well as your name and address.

Send your entries to LEGO U.K. Limited, (Club Competition), Wrexham, Clwyd, LL13 9UH.

Closing date is 10th September 1979.

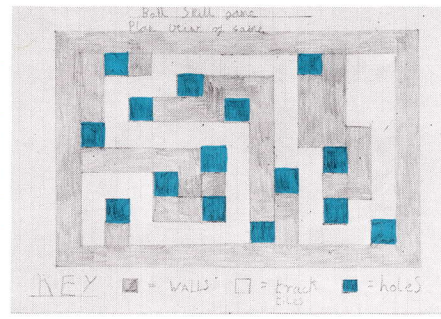
LEGO Games

Here are two ideas for games sent in by Club Members, both of whom also win Master Builder badges for clever ideas and for nice clear drawings which we reproduce.

Ball Skill Game

Paul Ponting of Essex devised this game which you can easily build to your own design, making it as easy or difficult as you like. The trick is to roll a ball bearing or small marble from one end of the track to the other without letting it fall down the pits marked black on Paul's design.

It could drive you bananas!



Tower Game

Michael Priest, aged 7½ of High Wycombe plays this with his sister. Each player has two LEGO men and you throw dice in turn. You advance your men up the steps of the LEGO pyramid according to the number on the dice. The first player to get both men into the tipper truck at the top wins.

Michael has 17 layers in his tower but you could have less—or a lot more, just as you like.